

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): **E.H. HINTON**  
**M. PAVENTI**

Serial No.:

Gr. Art Unit:

Filed:

For: **FRAGMENTATION ANALYSIS SYSTEM**

Examiner:



**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT & FORM PTO-1449**

Box Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, Form PTO-1449 attached contains a listing of references believed to be material to the examination of this patent application.

U.S. 5,844,800 is a background reference demonstrating a system for operating a loader responsive to a blasting cycle.

U.S. 6,205,687 is a background reference demonstrating a system for determining levels of difficulty when operating a loader.

U.S. 5,924,575 is a background reference demonstrating a system for determining physical characteristics of materials passing on a conveyor.

A. Ord, Real-Time Image Analysis of Size and Shape Distributions of Rock Fragments, page 28-31, The AusIMM Bulletin and Proceedings, Vol. 294, No. 1, Feb. 1989 (Nov. 1988 paper - Explo '88) is a background reference demonstrating a computer-monitor image analysis system for measuring rock fragments.

J. Kemeny, et al., Analysis of Rock Fragmentation Using Digital Image Processing, pages 1144-1160, ASCE Journal of Geotechnical Engineering, Vol. 119, No. 7, July 1993, is a background reference demonstrating an algorithm for analyzing digital images of muck pile rock fragments.

Although the USPTO has been provided with copies of the above-referenced material, it should be understood that there may be additional material which is either unknown to or unappreciated by the undersigned.

No fee is believed due at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

2/15/02

DATE



EDWARD A. STEEN  
Registration No. 28,909  
Attorney for Applicants

INCO PATENTS & LICENSING  
PARK 80 WEST - PLAZA TWO  
SADDLE BROOK, NJ 07663  
(201) 368-4853

"EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label # TB896942112US  
Date of Deposit 2/15/02

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Judith A. Horeisch  
(Name of person mailing paper or fee)  
Judith A. Horeisch  
(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMM.  
(REV. 7-80) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

SERIAL NO.

PC-4187/USA

## LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

## APPLICANT

HINTON, E.H., HALE, R., MANN G. &amp; SATURLEY, C.

## FILING DATE

## GROUP

1050 U.S. PTO  
10/07/01  
02/15/02

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER |   |   |   |   |   |   | DATE    | NAME                   | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|------------------|----|-----------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---------|------------------------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
|                  | AA | 5               | 8 | 4 | 4 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 12/1/98 | BRANDT ET AL.          | 364   | 468.03   |                            |
|                  | AB | 6               | 2 | 0 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 3/27/01 | ROCKE                  | 37    | 348      |                            |
|                  | AC | 5               | 9 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 5 | 7/20/99 | GIGLIOTTI, JR., ET AL. | 209   | 580      |                            |
|                  | AD |                 |   |   |   |   |   |   |         |                        |       |          |                            |
|                  | AE |                 |   |   |   |   |   |   |         |                        |       |          |                            |
|                  | AF |                 |   |   |   |   |   |   |         |                        |       |          |                            |
|                  | AG |                 |   |   |   |   |   |   |         |                        |       |          |                            |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|  |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER |  |  |  |  |  | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION |    |  |
|--|----|-----------------|--|--|--|--|--|------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|--|
|  |    |                 |  |  |  |  |  |      |         |       |          | YES         | NO |  |
|  | AH |                 |  |  |  |  |  |      |         |       |          |             |    |  |
|  | AI |                 |  |  |  |  |  |      |         |       |          |             |    |  |
|  | AJ |                 |  |  |  |  |  |      |         |       |          |             |    |  |
|  | AK |                 |  |  |  |  |  |      |         |       |          |             |    |  |
|  | AL |                 |  |  |  |  |  |      |         |       |          |             |    |  |

## OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

|  |    |   |
|--|----|---|
|  | AM | A. Ord, <u>Real-Time Image Analysis of Size and Shape Distributions of Rock Fragments</u> , page 28-31, The Auslmm Bulletin and Proceedings, Vol. 294, No. 1, Feb. 1989 (Nos. 1988 paper - Explo '88) |
|  |    |   |
|  | AN | U. Kemeny, et al, <u>Analysis of Rock Fragmentation Using Digital Image Processing</u> , pages 1144-1160 ASCE Journal of Geotechnical Engineering, Vol. 119, No. 7, July 1993                         |
|  |    |   |
|  | AO |   |

## EXAMINER

## DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.